

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 01265 180419Z
ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 043
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UNCLAS TUNIS 1265

STATE NEA/AFN FOR LEGGIO

AID/NESA FOR STAMBERG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFINUJ EAID, TS
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESS

1. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TUNISIAN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (API) SLAHEDDINE PACHA, IN FEBRUARY 15 CONVERSATION WITH ECONOMIC COUNSELOR, REQUESTED WE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON USG ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR ASSISTANCE TO SMALL INDUSTRY. PACHA EXPLAINED THAT API NOW IS ORGANIZING FOR MORE AGGRESSIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISE IN CONNECTION WITH \$5 MILLION IBRD LOAN FOR TUNISIAN FUND FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL DECENTRALIZATION (FOPRODI). PACHA SAID NEW INITIATIVE IN LINE BOTH WITH PHILOSOPHY OF GOT LEADERSHIP THAT BEST PROSPECTS FOR TUNISIA'S FUTURE RESIDE IN STRONG MIDDLELCLASS AND WITH INCREASED EMPHASIS ON DECENTRALIZED AID TO DEVELOP LESS ADVANCED AREAS AWAY FROM TUNIS AND EAST COAST URBAN CENTERS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EXPLORING RESOURCES OF AID, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND POSSIBLY PRIVATE OR INDIVIDUAL STATE AGENCIES FOR APPROPRIATE MATERIALS.

2. FOCUS SHOULD BE ON ORGANIZATION, STRATEGY, AND EVALUATION
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PROCEDURES, BUT PRACTICAL OPERATING MANUALS ALSO ARE OF INTEREST. IF POSSIBLE, MATERIALS SHOULD BE IN FRENCH, BUT API PREPARED TO WORK WITH ENGLISH-LANGUAGE MATERIAL AS NECESSARY. SUGGEST YOU ALSO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY THAT FRENCH-SPEAKING EXPERT, PERHAPS FROM SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MIGHT VISIT TUNISIA FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH GOT.

3. FOR OTTAWA: ICLTSOLWWSBIATE YOUR APPROACHING GOC TO SEE
WHETHER AGENCIES SUCH AS DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC
EXPANSION, CIDA, IDRC--OR PROVINCE OF QUEBEC-- MAY HAVE USEFUL
FRENCH-LANGUAGE DOCUMENTATION. (CANADIAN EMBASSY HERE INFORMALLY
CONCURS WITH THIS REQUEST).
MULCAHY

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Message Attributes

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